

FEB 1952 51-AAA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Document No. <u>2</u>	CLASSIFICATION
No Change in Class. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Declassified	
Class. Changed To: TS S C	
Auth: HR 70-2	
Date: 20 SEP 1978	By: 27

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

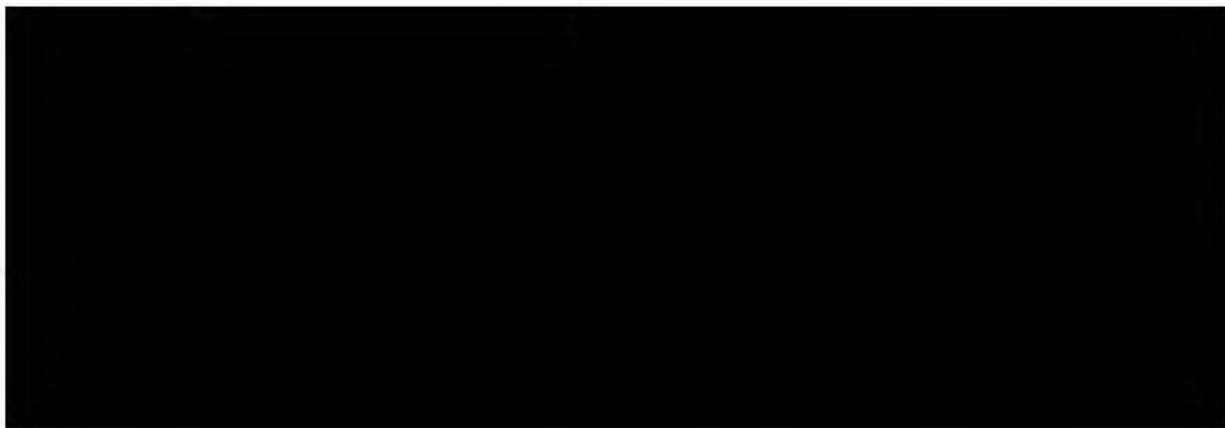
CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 14 June 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Controls Over Civilian Vessels and
Coastal Security, East ChinaDATE OF INFO. 25X1C
[REDACTED]PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]TO CIA
BRARY

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1. Beginning in February 1952, one of the crew members of each vessel sailing between China and various islands off the coast of China will be commanded by the Chinese Communist Government for training in China.

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2. In late January the Fuan (119-38, 27-04) Hsien Government commandeered five civilian steamships at Saich'i (119-40, 26-56). The Fuan Government planned to return these boats to their original owners after three months. At about the same time the Fuan, Hsiap'u (119-39, 26-53), Ningte (119-33, 26-39), and Loyuan (119-33, 26-27) Hsien Governments ordered district and village governments under their jurisdiction to commandeer 2,000 catties of hay from each village in the interior and 5,000 catties from each village in the coastal area by 25 January 1952. It was reported in the area that troops were scheduled to pass through northern Fukien.

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3. In late December 1951 the Chekiang government ordered the Chekiang Support-the-Front Headquarters to establish a committee for the mobilization of civilian vessels.² In support of this order, the Civilian Vessel Labor Association started carrying out the following activities, according to AN Chi-fu (1344/C679/3940), head of the 12 Unit of the association:

- a. Directing civilian vessel laborers in Chekiang to complete the establishment of support-the-front organizations prior to the end of March.

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- b. Sending workers with good service records to various places in Chekiang to instruct other workers and to ask them to follow the government's orders in carrying out their duties.
- c. Calling on ship repair workers to speed up their work and to install more equipment.

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- 4. By early February many workers who feared the government would commandeer civilian vessels for war purposes had secretly changed their occupations. To cope with this situation, the Communists started forcing laborers to sign a "patriotic agreement" and instituted an insurance system. The insurance system provided that all vessels commandeered by the Communists would be returned with compensation for damages to the vessels. Communist authorities also planned to help civilian vessel laborers solve their living expenses.

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- 5. By January 1952 the Chinese Communists had established a branch of the maritime public security bureau in every port along the coast of northern Kiangsu. Each branch consisted of 50 men and 2 or 3 motor junks which were equipped with light and heavy machine guns and other guns. The branch at Lianyunkang (119-22, 34-43) was on a larger scale and had six gunboats which had been converted from United States fishing boats and which were armed with light and heavy machine guns and cannon. Their main duty was to patrol the Lianyunkang area.
- 6. In January sea defense in northern Kiangsu was the responsibility of the Maritime Defense Bureau of northern Kiangsu, which consisted of about 1,400 men and officers who originally belonged to the Northern Kiangsu Maritime Defense Regiment. This bureau was equipped with ten motor junks, which maintained a constant patrol of the area. SUN I-ming (1327/0122/2494) was in charge of this bureau.

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- 1. Comment. In mid-March 1952 boatmen in various places in Chekiang were being conscripted for the front-supporting campaign,

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- 2. Comment. This action indicates the Communists are making preparations to attack the Tach'en Islands and other islands.

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Comment. In March, members of the 3 Field Army in Haimen were discussing the forthcoming invasion of the Tach'en Islands, according to

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